



News Release

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For Release: Immediate

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)
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Corps Releases Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan to Address Contamination at the St. Louis North County Site

St. Louis – Today, the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP), administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), submits for public review and comment a Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan to address contamination resulting from the nation's early atomic energy program in St. Louis North County.

FUSRAP addresses contamination generated by activities of the Manhattan Engineer District/Atomic Energy Commission (MED/AEC) in support of our nation's early atomic energy program. Analysis of samples of the site's soil and sediments has confirmed the presence of MED/AEC contamination in the forms of radium, thorium, uranium, and their decay products. The North County Site includes the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), SLAPS Vicinity Properties (VPs), and Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS)/Latty Avenue VPs, Futura, and Coldwater Creek.

The USACE has been working to develop cleanup alternatives for the North County Site. In accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, these alternatives are presented in two documents, the *St. Louis North County Site Feasibility Study* and the *St. Louis North County Site Proposed Plan*. Both documents are now available for public review with the Site Administrative Record File at either the St. Louis Public Library at 1301 Olive Street in St. Louis, Missouri or the FUSRAP Project Office at 8945 Latty Avenue in Berkeley, Missouri. Copies of the North County Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan are also available online at www.mvs.usace.army.mil/engr/fusrap/home2.htm.

The Feasibility Study provides detailed descriptions of the six alternatives designed to address site contamination. The final remedy for the site will be selected based in part on public comments on these alternatives. The USACE identifies its preferred alternative, Alternative 5, in the Proposed Plan. Under Alternative 5, the USACE will remove contaminated soils from SLAPS, HISS, and the VPs for out-of-state disposal. Institutional controls, such as land use or zoning restrictions, will be placed on soils under roads, bridges, railroads and other permanent structures.

In consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), USACE will select a final remedy after reviewing all public comments submitted during the 30-day public comment period, scheduled to end on May 30, 2003. The USACE encourages the public to review and comment on all alternatives presented in these documents. The preferred alternative can change in response to public comment or new information.

FUSRAP Program Manager, Sharon Cotner said, "Our goal over the next month is to listen to what the public has to say about the remedial alternatives that are presented in this plan. Public input will affect the final remedy selection and full consideration to all public comments will be given."

On May 29, 2003, a public meeting will be held at the Hazelwood Civic Center – East, beginning at 6 p.m. with a poster session and technical staff available to answer questions. At 7 p.m. the USACE will briefly identify the alternatives then request verbal comments from the public. Written comments regarding the alternatives may be submitted to the USACE anytime during the 30-day comment period, which ends May 30, 2003. All written comments should be addressed to St. Louis District Corps of Engineers, FUSRAP Project Office, ATTN: Ms. Sharon Cotner, 8945 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134.

For more information or to participate in the review, please visit our web site or call (314) 260-3905.

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